

# Timing of first dose of measles vaccine questioned

October 21 2013

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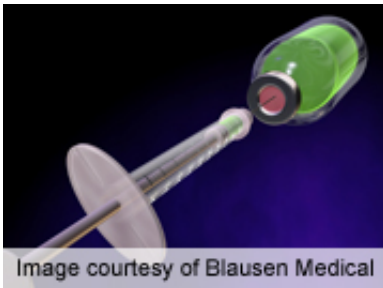


Image courtesy of Blausen Medical

(HealthDay)—Children who receive the first dose of a two-dose schedule of measles vaccine at 12 to 13 months compared with 15 months or later have a greater risk of developing measles, according to a study published online Oct. 21 in *Pediatrics*.

Fannie Defay, from the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Québec in Québec City, and colleagues compared [measles](#) risk among two-dose recipients of the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (5 to 17 years old), where 102 children had measles and 510 matched children did not have measles.

The researchers found that 89 percent of measles cases occurred in children 13 to 17 years old. Receiving the first vaccine dose at 12 to 13 months of age compared with  $\geq 15$  months of age was associated with an

increased risk of measles in children outside the outbreak school (odds ratio, 6.2) and the pool of [children](#) inside and outside the outbreak school (odds ratio, 5.2).

"A significantly greater risk of measles among two-dose recipients whose first dose was given at 12 to 13 months rather than  $\geq 15$  months of age is confirmed in the larger Quebec data set," Defay and colleagues conclude. "The optimal [age](#) at first dose may warrant additional evaluation."

Several authors disclosed financial relationships with pharmaceutical companies.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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